Launching of Comprehensive health care policy by GIC

4647. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the General Insurance Corporation is shortly going to launch a managed health care policy which would provide comprehensive health care services to its beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the seheme is likely to be initiated;

(c) whether the beneficiary will have the benefit of consulting the top specialists in the field under the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) have reported that they have engaged a Consultant to advice them on various aspects relating to introduction of managed health care policy in India. The Policy will be designed by the GIC keeping in view the recommendations of the Consultant.

Foreign Operations of Weak Public Sector Banks

4648. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the weak public sector banks to shut down their foreign operations;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made by Government about the losses suffered by weak public sector banks due to foreign operations during the past few years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of other steps Government propose to take to restructure and rationalise the weak public sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir. No such direction has been given by the Government.

(b) and (c) RBI monitors the performance of the foreign

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operations of the Indian banks through a set of quarterly returns called RALOO (Return On Assets And Liabilities of Overseas Operations) statements. Besides, the foreign branch operations are reviewed as part of annual financial inspection of banks. Supervisory concerns arising out of analysis of off-site returns and onsite examination are taken up with the concerned banks for appropriate corrective action. Based on the recommendations of an informal group constituted to review the supervision of foreign operations of Indian banks, RBI has decided to introduce a revised set of quarterly returns called the DSB-O returns, which will replace the existing returns by June, 2000. Further, detailed guidelines on credit and investment management, internal control system in the foreign branches have been issued for implementation by June, 2000.

The details of profit and loss for the last three years of two weak public sector banks *viz.* Indian Bank and UCO Bank having foreign branches is given below:

Name	Year ended	Gross Profit	Net Profit
Indian Bank	1996-97	12.27	0.42
	1997-98	8.48	0.11
	1998-99	6.99	0.62
UCO Bank	1996-97	14.42	11.36
	1997-98	10.80	7.37
	1998-99	9.91	3.71

United Bank of India, the third identified weak public sector bank does not have any branches overseas.

(d) Action has been initiated on the recommendations of the Verma Working Group on weak banks. The weak banks have been requested to submit their draft restructuring plans. These plans would also take into account the overseas operations of the two banks.